

Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department

Young Men About Change (YMAC) Residential Program

Resident Family and Friends Frequently Asked Questions - FAQs

Dear YMAC Resident Family Member or Friend:

Please be advised that if your family member has been placed in or will be participating in the Harris County CSCD Young Men About Change (YMAC) residential program, the following information will assist you during the time that he is at YMAC.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. How will I know when my family member goes to YMAC?

Each YMAC participant will be able to make one phone call the day he arrives at the facility to let family or other persons know that he is in the program.

2. How long is the program?

This program's duration is up to twelve (12) months. However, each resident is able to complete all program requirements within approximately 6 months in order to earn a successful completion and discharge. A longer stay in the program may occur if the program requirements are not completed in a timely manner for each phase.

3. What does the program involve?

The program consists of 3 phases: Orientation Phase, Treatment Phase, and Transition Phase. The residential program consists of **classes, group and individual counseling involving topics** to address opportunities to change negative attitudes and behaviors, assisting the participants in assuming responsibility for own thoughts and behaviors, and developing skills to succeed in a non-structured community setting. Residents will participate in groups to address substance abuse issues, motivational groups, process groups, encounter group, anger management, individual counseling, GED or Adult Basic Education classes, life skills, Ropes challenge course, recreation opportunities, and various other programs that will assist the resident in their success while on community supervision and beyond.

4. Can YMAC residents receive mail, including photos?

Immediately upon arrival at YMAC the resident will be allowed to write and receive mail. If you choose to write him or send him money, please use the following address:

Full name of the resident
Harris County SPN number
YMAC Program
2310 and 1/2 Atascocita Road
Humble, TX 77396

Letters:

- From another correctional facility will not be accepted, unless approved by the resident's assigned Community Supervision Officer (Probation Officer).
- Must be on plain envelopes;
- Letters with graffiti, symbols or pictures drawn on the envelope will be returned to sender or denied and placed in the resident's property storage if there is no return address

Photos

- Must be non-offensive, non-gang related; cannot show use of alcohol or drugs; cannot show weapons; cannot show inappropriate behavior by the persons in the photos.

5. Can YMAC residents make or receive telephone calls?

After the resident is promoted to Phase II of the program, which is approximately one (1) month, telephone privileges will begin. The resident can make scheduled phone calls in the presence of his counselor, but cannot receive phone calls.

6. Can the YMAC resident receive visits and what can I expect to take place during the visit?

After the resident has been promoted to Phase 2 of the program (normally one month), he may begin to have visits. Visitation is held on the weekend only and is on different days for different phases. Your family member will be responsible for informing you which day he is allowed to have visits. Only two adults and two children are allowed to visit at a time. Visitation begins at 1 p.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Please be on time for visitation. All adult visitors must present photo identification before being allowed to enter the facility. All visitors must participate in a one (1) hour family education session with a program counselor prior to each and every visit. This will take place from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. followed by visitation with the resident from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

*No personal items can be brought into the facility during visitation. No items can be exchanged between the visitor and the resident. The visitor will be asked to end their visit and immediately leave the facility if observed passing or attempting to pass anything to the resident. All visitors are expected to be cooperative and follow the directions of the staff for a safe and enjoyable visit.

7. Is there a dress code for visitors and what is allowed or not allowed?

Appropriate visitation attire is strictly enforced. Below is a list of restrictions:

- Dresses or skirt hemlines must be at or below the knee
- No plunging necklines
- Shirts and blouses must have sleeves
- No tank tops
- No gang identified clothing
- No purses will be allowed into the facility
- No outside food or drinks will be allowed into the facility
- No hats, knit stocking caps, or ball caps
- No cameras or cell phones
- No tobacco products of any kind

8. Where is the facility located and how can I get there?

For your convenience, see the map for the YMAC program found in the LOCATIONS section of the HCCSCD website menu.

Highway 59 North toward Humble, TX
Exit Beltway eastbound
2nd light will be Wilson Oates Road (turn left)
Next light will be Atascocita Road (turn right)
Next light will be Ygnacio (turn right)
Follow blue/white signs CCF – YMAC
Continue to the Right. The YMAC program is located in the gray metal buildings.

9. Can the resident have money and can they buy things while at YMAC?

A commissary account is established for each resident and is opened with funds brought with the resident at intake. Additional monies will be deposited to the account upon receipt. Possession of cash by residents is prohibited. ONLY U.S. POSTAL MONEY ORDERS ARE ACCEPTED. NO CASH OR PERSONAL CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

- Money orders should be made out to INMATE TRUST FUND
- The resident's name and SPN must be written on the money order. See the following example:

POSTAL MONEY ORDER	
UNITED STATES POSTAL MONEY ORDER	TWENTY DOLLARS \$20.00
PAY TO: INMATE TRUST FUND	
<hr/>	
ADDRESS: 2310 ½ Atascocita Rd. Humble, Texas 77396	
MEMO: JOHN DOE - SPN # 00987734	FROM: JENNITE DOE YOUR ADDRESS: CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE

Money orders may be mailed in anytime of the week or can be brought to the facility only on Thursdays (except Holidays) from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm or Saturdays between the hours 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. No items will be accepted after these hours.

10. Can I bring anything to the resident while he is at YMAC?

ONLY APPROVED DELIVERIES may be brought to the facility on Thursdays (except Holidays) from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (noon). No items will be accepted after these hours or any other day. You will be informed by the resident when he has received approval for property to be delivered. All items brought to the resident must be new and unopened in the store packaging.

11. Can the resident receive reading material?

Only books or literature whose topics are substance abuse recovery, self-help or religious are allowed to be brought to the facility. YMAC staff will screen all books and literature.

12. What clothing items can the resident receive?

The following is a list of approved personal items and the acceptable quantity that may be brought with the resident to the facility or sent to the resident while he is in the program. Items must be color specific per the below list. **ALL OTHER ITEMS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED OR ACCEPTED.**

Personal Items
5 White Undershirts
2 pair Tennis Shoes (white color only)
1 pair Dress Shoes
1 pair Work Boots
1 pair Shower Shoes
5 pairs White Socks
5 White Underwear
2 Gray Sweat Sets (warm ups)
2 Gray Gym Shorts
2 Gray T-shirts
2 Sets White Thermals
1 Watch / Wedding Band each

ALL hygiene items, stamps and envelopes will be available for purchase through the program commissary ONLY.

13. Other information:

Commencement exercises are held on a monthly basis. You will be invited to be a part of your family member's graduation.

This program is peer driven and the client's progress determines how long they will remain here. We hope you will be a part of the client's support team in their recovery. Please keep this general information letter, which should cover most of your questions, for quick reference. If you have any additional questions about the program, please call the main switchboard at 281-459-8000. Depending on your questions, you will be directed to the appropriate staff. Specific questions about a resident's progress or status in the program cannot be addressed over the phone due to confidentiality requirements.

Sincerely,

YMAC Administration